

Clean *Indoor Air* Act

Fully implemented on October 1, 2009
Because everyone deserves a smokefree workplace



On October 1, 2009, all bar and casino employees and patrons will be protected from exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke.

Secondhand Smoke Kills

- Secondhand smoke exposure, even for as little as 30 minutes, can cause heart attacks. People at risk for heart disease or stroke are particularly vulnerable.^{1,2}
- Secondhand smoke exposure causes the delicate lining of veins and arteries to become sticky and clogged.¹
- Secondhand smoke exposure increases the risk of breast cancer in young women.³
- Secondhand smoke exposure causes many other health problems including heart disease and lung cancer in adults, low birth weight infants, sudden infant death syndrome, and childhood ear and respiratory infections. It also triggers asthma attacks in children.⁴
- Evidence suggests that exposure to secondhand smoke increases risk of stroke.^{4,5}
- There is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke. Secondhand smoke contains more than 4,000 chemical compounds, at least 50 of which cause lung, breast or other cancers.³

Montana's Law Recognizes Citizens' Right to Breathe Clean Air

- The Montana Clean Indoor Air Act recognizes that the need to breathe smokefree air has priority over the desire to smoke.⁶
- More than 50,000 Americans die annually from secondhand smoke exposure, nearly four fifths of them from heart disease.³
- For every 8 smokers who die, 1 nonsmoker also dies. Each year, an estimated 175 Montanans who never smoked die from breathing someone else's tobacco smoke.^{4,7}
- The air quality in a smoky bar or casino can easily exceed the safe outdoor standards adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - three times worse than poor air quality due to wildfire.⁸



Montana's Clean Indoor Air Law Protects Health

- Smokefree laws reduce heart attack rates by nearly 20%.²
- Clean indoor air laws increase the number of smokers who attempt to quit and help prevent youth from starting to smoke.⁹
- Modern ventilation systems do not remove secondhand smoke toxins from the air inside a building and designated smoking rooms do not protect others in the building.³
- Secondhand smoke toxins adhere to surfaces, exposing people unknowingly to these toxins long after smoking has ceased.¹⁰

Montanans Strongly Support Our Smokefree Law

- 75% of Montanans support the Montana Clean Indoor Air Act as it will apply to bars, taverns and casinos, up from 67% in 2006.¹¹
- 87% of Montanans believe it is important for bar and casino employees to have a smokefree workplace.¹¹
- 83% of Montanans polled said it would be more enjoyable to go to a smokefree bar or casino.¹²

Get the *Facts* on protecting Montanans from secondhand tobacco smoke.

For more information or the name of a local tobacco use prevention specialist who can help answer your questions, please contact:

Montana Tobacco Use Prevention Program

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Helena, MT 59620-2951

Toll-Free Information Line: 866-787-5AIR (866-787-5247)

Website: www.tobaccofree.mt.gov

SOURCES:

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